

Early Industries

July - 81

# YPSILANTI GLEANINGS

## PAST SCENES and OLDTIMES

YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY~ PUBLICATION~



Ypsilanti Historical Museum  
~ 220 N. Huron Street ~

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# CITY OF YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

1 SOUTH HURON STREET

YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN 48197

March 19, 1981

Dear Friend:

Ypsilanti's great history began in 1809 when three French explorers -- Gabriel Godfroy, Romaine LaChambre and Francois Pepin -- established a trading post on the west bank of the Huron River, 100 yards north of the Old Sauk Trail (Michigan Avenue).

Their enterprise in laying out 2632 acres in 1811 for 4 French Claims is a splendid example to all generations to come.

The efforts of the Ypsilanti Historical Society, organized in 1960, have made us all aware of Ypsilanti's remarkable Heritage. Ypsilanti citizens as well as former residents of our area have become interested in the city's history and learning where their families fitted into scenes of the past.

Ypsilanti now has a fine Historical Museum at 222 N. Huron Street, expertly staffed by volunteers, which is visited every year by more and more people. The Society has a membership of more than 375 and publishes a quarterly known as "Gleanings".

If our Historical Museum is to continue to grow, we need continued financial support and additional family records, photos, diaries, letters and memorabilia.

Sincerely,



George D. Goodman  
Mayor

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## GLEANINGS

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JULY, 1981

Publication of the YPSILANTI  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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FOR SALE - The combination of the 1874, 1895 and 1915 Washtenaw  
County Atlases, all in one volume for only \$40.00 plus sales  
tax. Shipping charge of \$2.00. This book in an excellent repro-  
duction of these old Atlases plus the Bird's Eye of Manchester,  
Saline, Chelsea, Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti.

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"Gleanings" Old Times and Old Scenes is published quarterly  
January-February, May-June, September-October and November-  
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Single copies \$1.00.

Editorial overseer Foster Fletcher; contributor-composer Sharon  
Patterson; contributors: Doris Milliman, Ethel O'Connor.

Members also receive supplemental mailings on special exhibits  
and General Meetings of the Society.

The Ypsilanti Historical Society is a non-profit organization.

Offices 220 North Huron St., Ypsilanti, MI 48197

## YPSILANTI

### Its Past, Present and Future

This early history first appeared in the Ypsilanti Commercial on May 23, 1874 and was written by Charles Rich Pattison. Mr. Pattison was Editor-Publisher of the Commercial 1864-87.

This is a continuation. Part I appeared in the April, 1981 "Gleanings".

### NEWSPAPERS

In July, 1838 the Ypsilanti Republican came into existence but lived only eighteen months. The  
Ypsilanti Sentinel

Was issued by J.W. Van Fossen, in December, 1843. Charles Woodruff soon after became its proprietor and has since continued to publish and edit it, with the exception of two years during which time it was known as the "Chronicle" and was published by Aaron Guest. It is democratic in politics. The office has a liberally patronized job department. The size of the paper is 28 by 40 inches.

In 1858, Norris & Follett started the Ypsilanti "Herald" in opposition to the "Sentinel". After publishing it for about two years they sold it to Mr. McCracken who in turn sold it to Captain Wilsie. The Captain went into the army at the commencement of the war and the paper died, Mr. Woodruff renting and running the office in connection with his own.

January 1, 1864, C.R. Pattison purchased the material of the office and the first week in March issued the first number of the Ypsilanti "True Democrat", which at the end of the first volume he changed to the

### Ypsilanti Commercial

the name it now bears. For three years he occupied a rented office in Worden's block then moved to a larger room in

Moormon's block over Cornwell & Hemphill's Bank, but his rapidly growing business compelled him to seek still more commodious quarters, and at the end of six months he bought and fitted up his present office and began to run his presses by steam. He has a superb three horse power engine, the celebrated Baxter patent. In addition to his paper which has a good and constantly increasing circulation he has an unusually large amount of types and presses, and facilities for job work largely in excess of the present demands of the city and vicinity. Of job work a large amount is done, pamphlet-book work is done at this office, and the "School" mentioned below is printed here. Mr. Pattison has just sent for the type and is about to print Prof. Bellows' Algebra. At the present writing the transactions of the State Teachers' Association are being printed here. There is a good book bindery in connection with the printing office. The office is 22 X 58 feet, two stories with a capacious basement and filled from top to bottom with printing and binders' material. He gives employment to six skilled workmen. The size of the paper is 28 X 40 inches.

#### The School

Is a monthly journal 20 large pages, devoted to educational interests, published and edited by C.F.R. Bellows & Co. It is gotten up in excellent style, and is in all respects a first class educational journal. The Faculty of the Normal School are generous contributors to its pages.

Hon. Schuyler Colfax will deliver the semi-centennial address in this city the coming 4th of July.

#### MANUFACTURING

We confess that we are surprised to find so much being done as there is, and that the facilities for increasing the amount are so much better than we had anticipated, for we had already formed a high opinion of them; and we wonder, considering the success of existing works that a more general attention from abroad has not sooner been called in this direction. Why should capital be allowed to drift by us to less favored

regions, when what we possess in the way of natural and acquired advantages, needs only to be made known, in order to secure it?

Flouring Mills

Huron Mills,

The pioneer, is situated on the east bank of the Huron river near Congress street bridge. This in earlier days was the model mill of Michigan, and while it cannot now claim any superiority over other first-class mills, yet it is second to none, and in the hands of its present proprietors the Deubel Bros. is turning out 12,000 barrels of flour, and grinds for the people of the vicinity 24,000 bushels of grain per year. It contains six run of stone and gives employment to four men. Its machingery is driven by water-power, and the mill has a capacity much greater than the work being done. The proprietors will probably work it up to its full force again as soon as the markets get into a normal condition.

\*Detroit and the East afford a ready market for its products. The mill and its equipments represent \$20,000 capital.

City Mill,

On the West bank of the Huron, above Cross Street bridge. It, or rather the mill of which this is an enlargement was built in Territorial days. In 1865 it came into the possession of the Ypsilanti Woolen Mill Company, and by this cmompany was sold to T.C. Owen, Esq., a nephew of E.B. Ward, of Detroit, who is also an interested party. The mill is an immense structure. It contains seven run of stone, and at present is turning out 250 barrels of flour per day. It, in addition, grinds 30,000 bushels of grain per year, for the farmers of the vicinity. Prior to the panic last October, it was turning out three hundred barrels per day, and Mr. Owen expects to be doing the same again very soon. A side track from the Michigan Central Railroad runs to the door of the mill, and cars loaded with wheat from the far west are left there in the morning and the next morning the flour from this wheat is

barreled and in the same cars on its way to the distant east, having been delayed but a single day on the route. The mill gives employment to some eight or ten men. It represents a capital of \$65,000.

Cooper Shops,

Of these there are several in the city, the most extensive of which belongs to Mr. Henning and is situated on Cross Street east. This shop turns out 15,000 apple barrels, 1,000 cider barrels, and a large number of flour and half-barrels per year. The shop is 30 X 80 feet, and is built of brick. Near this are two large buildings each two stories high, in which are the office, store rooms, etc., etc.; adjoining are four large sheds used for sheltering "stock". Mr. Henning furnishes twelve men with employment.

Paper Mills,

Of all the industries of the city the manufacture of paper has assumed the most gigantic proportions. At no one locality in the State does this interest employ so much capital as at this point.

Cornwells & Co.,

Near the southern boundary of the city, on the east bank of the river stands the mill of this enterprising firm. Twice has its mill been destroyed by fire, yet no whit daunted but made braver by former disaster, the company now occupies a machine room 66 X 130 feet, an engine room 36 X 120 feet, and a stock room 50 X 107 feet. These buildings are united under one roof, and are built of brick in the most substantial manner. In the machine room stands three first class machines which manufacture of news-print (the only paper made here) from three and one-half to four tons per day all of which is taken by the Chicago Times, the Detroit Post, and the Detroit Tribune. In the manufacture of this paper there are consumed each day five tons of straw, one and one-half tons of rags, one and one-fourth tons of dry-wood pulp, 1500 pounds of soda-ash, 1000 pounds of bleach, seven cords of wood, 2000

pounds of lime, besides many other articles in lesser quantities. There are six rag engines, each of 500 pounds capacity, two large steam boilers, and four large rotaries, each with a diameter of seven feet, and a length of twenty-two feet. Nearly all the paper made at this mill is shipped in large rolls, of from 250 to 300 pounds each, to be cut at the office of the newspaper where used. The mill gives employment to forty persons. Its water power is abundant, and a steam engine of 30 horse power stands ready to aid in case of emergency. The mill is lighted by gas manufactured on the premises. To Mr. Cornwell is due the credit of being the first to initiate the manufacture of paper at this point. His first mill was erected about sixteen years ago, and was destroyed by fire in 1871. This company is largely interested in the Ypsilanti Paper Co.

Peninsular Paper Co.,

at the north western extremity of the city near where the Huron enters the city limits, and occupying one of the most beautiful sites to be found on the river, stands the works of the Peninsular Paper Company. These consist of two massive brick buildings two and three stories high, with their equipments, and a shipping or freight-house which stands at the side track of the company.

The first building which was completed in 1867 stands upon the south bank of the river. The second building stands upon the north bank of the stream, and was completed in 1873. Its dimensions are nearly the same as those of the first. Both these buildings are well lighted and thoroughly ventilated. News-press and book paper are manufactured, for which only first and second class rags are used. The machinery is in every respect the best that can be made, and the quality of the paper cannot well be surpassed. Six tons of rags are consumed, and four tons of paper are manufactured on an average each working day in the year. This paper finds a ready market in the State, and at Chicago. Some of the finest toned paper in the market is manufactured here, and good judges have pronounced this the best "book" mill in the country. Water power

is employed to the amount of 315 horse-power, and this can be increased almost indefinitely as the company has the right to raise its dam which has at present a head of ten feet, three feet higher. This, however, will not be necessary as it does not use all the power it now has. Eighty persons find employment at these mills. A capital of \$200,000 is here represented.

Ypsilanti Paper Co.,

About one mile above the Peninsular Mills a new mill is being erected, which when completed will be similar in size and equal in capacity to the mill of Cornwells & Co. The mill is built like all the others, of brick with solid stone foundations, and will when completed represent a capital of \$100,000. The company possesses as fine a water power as can be found in the State, and it will be sufficient to work two mills equal in capacity to the one being built. The dam now building by the company will be a model for strength and durability, and the water will have a head of sixteen feet.

PLANING MILLS.

Parsons Brothers,

Situated on the corner of Parsons and Park streets is the mill and factory of Parsons Bros. Their main building--independent of office, paint shop, and shed, is 60 X 64 feet, and is two stories high. Their machingery is all first class and is driven by an engine of 25 horse power. Here are made dressed lumber, sash, doors, blinds, moldings, scroll work, casings and all other work usually done in a first class manufactory of this kind, and did the proprietors confine themselves exclusively to this class of work they would be rated among the heavy firms. But in addition to their extensive works in this direction they manufacture per year 1500 Monitor washing machines, 500 dozens axe handles, 75 gross of base-ball bats, and neck-yokes, whiffletrees, stone cutters, mallets, etc., etc., in an almost unlimited number. All these articles,

as we can testify from a personal examination, are made from the very best of material, and finished in the most perfect manner. Parsons Bros. employ eighteen men.

Edwards, Mc Kinstry & Van Cleve,

On Congress street west stands the planing mill and factory of the above firm. This is the old firm of Edwards & Cooper so well and favorable known throughout the State. The buildings of the Agricultural College at Lansing, Cook's Hotel at Ann Arbor, and many other large buildings in the State were built by the old firm. When Mr. C. left the city Mr. Edwards associated himself with the above named gentlemen, and the new firm still continues to merit the reputation acquired by Edwards & Cooper. Their factory is of brick, 56 X 64 feet, two stories high, and is supplied with first class machinery which is run by a 40 horse power engine. In addition to their regular work as builders and manufacturers of dressed lumber, sash, doors, etc., they are turning out 30,000 ball clubs per year. This firm employs on an average fifteen men. We may be permitted here to remark for the comfort (?) of fathers and mothers that there seems to be no danger of the "National game" becoming extinct very soon, as Ypsilanti alone ships about 45,000 base ball bats every year, independent of home consumption.

Just above Cross Street bridge are the planing and saw mills of

Follmor & Scovill,

This company confines itself exclusively to the manufacture of hardwood lumber from the logs cut in the vicinity, and of dressed lumber. Water power is employed, and the company owns and occupies three buildings. This is the oldest establishment of the kind in the city.

On Cross Street east may be found the factory of

Whitmore & Co.,

who confine themselves almost exclusively to the manufacture to the manufacture of sash doors, blinds, and general building materials. They make use of a ten horse-power engine to

drive their machinery, and employ four men.

#### FOUNDRIES AND MACHINE SHOPS.

On River Street at its interection by the Michigan Central Railroad is located the extensive works of

Ferrier & Son.

This enterprising firm occupy a large brick building 60 X 130 feet, and two stories high, besides an adjacent shop and foundry both of brick. They make a specialty of mill machinery, and are at present constructing the machines for the paper mill now building, and of which mention has elsewhere been made; they also manufacture between 1500 and 2000 corn shellers per year. For these they find a quick market in the west. They employ twenty men; an engine of ten horse power drives their machinery. They are located on River street, near the depot.

J. & W.L. Mc Cullough,

This firm east of Congress St. bridge, manufactures agricultural implements, and does a general custom business. They manutacture about 100 plows, 75 wheeled cultivators, and many other implements per year; they also do a considerable business in the manufacture of large kettles. They use a six hourse-power engine and employ five men. Their building is of brick and is two stories high.

Ypsilanti Novelty Works,

On Grove St. Near the railroad, and soon to be joined to it by a side-track are the buildings, built and owned by John Gilbert, Esq. They are built of brick and are in all respects first-class. The main building is 60 X 60 feet and is three stories high, attached to this is an engine room 20 X 60 feet, and a boiler-room 10 X 30 feet. The foundry is 30 X 60 feet, and there are two workshops, one two stories high 24 X 40 feet, the other one story high 24 X 40 feet. Two engines are used, one of 40, and the other of 15 horse power. The works occupy two acres of ground, and when in full operation give employment to a large number of men. The name of the works

sufficiently indicate their character. The Eureka safe, the settes used by the Michigan Central Railroad for its waiting rooms, water tanks, hay-presses, ladders, bureaus, tables, bedsteads and chairs are some of the articles manufactured here. Mr. Gilbert also builds a large amount of fences for the railroad each year, all the material for which is prepared at these works.

Carriage Manufacturing  
The Beach Carriage Manfacyr.

This firm, which takes its name from the inventor of the celebrated shifting carriage seat, represents a large and growing interest. Its buildings (east side of N. Washington) are of brick and consist of a factory 40 X 60 feet, three stories high, a large blacksmith shop in which are five fires, and the building which it occupies for offices, paintshop, store-room, etc., on Washington Street, which is 80 X 75 feet, and two stories high. The machingery in the factory is driven by a ten horse power engine and the Company employs forty men.

Had we space, it would be interesting to trace the origin and growth of this firm which, like so many of the other interests of the city, began in weakness, but which, under the auspices of the favorable surrounding advantages, and by the guidance of the intelligent gentlemen who have had it in charge, has grown so rapidly in extent and value.

At present the Company manufactures one thousand carriage bodies, six hundred sleigh bodies, and one hundred finished carriages per year. Nor does it yet appear what it will become, since the firm own the patent for Beach's Shifting Carriage Seat for the United States, and this seat seems destined to supercede all other styles of seats. The Company represents a capital of \$40,000, and finds a ready market in the West for all the work it is able to turn out. Hon. S.M. Cutcheon, President; A.G. Starr, Secretary; S.W. Beach, Superintendent.

Curtis' Carriage Factory  
is situated on Congress Street west. Mr. Curtis makes a specialty of light work, principally "Gents' Driving" buggies.

His building is a large two story brick, built in the most substantial manner, and together with his blacksmith shop, has a front of four rods. He gives employment to 10 skillful workmen, who compleat 40 carriages and twenty sleights per year. He established himself here in 1868, and finds his business constantly increasing.

In addition to the two firms mentioned above, E.H. Jackson, on Huron Street south, turns out fifty new wagons per year, and William Freeman, and Wortman & Co., do considerable new work, besides the large amount of repairing which is done at their shops. These three firms give work to some two or three men each.

#### CHAIR FACTORY.

Adjoining the Novelty Works of Mr. Gilbert, stands the Chair Factory of

Maynard & Flinn.

These gentlemen give employment to seven men, who manufacture five hundred chairs per week, besides tables and bedsteads. These gentlemen have an eighteen horse power engine, which drives their machinery. Their building is two stories high, and is about 30 X 50 feet.

#### CABINET WARE.

The largest firm in the city is that of

Mc Andrew & Co.

Mr. McAndrew settled in Ypsilanti and began the manufacture and sale of cabinet ware at an early day. He has since associated with him the gentlemen Wallace and Clark. The new firm manufactures nearly all of its finest furniture, and any one visiting its salesroom is obliged to confess that it would be difficult to surpass its work. From six to ten men are employed, and an eight horse power engine drives the machinery. The factories are in the rear of the salesroom on Congress Street.

#### H. Vinkle.

This gentleman has lately bought the cabinet works of

D. Coon, on Congress Street, and is making a general reconstruction of the place prior to beginning business, which he will do speedily.

In addition to the above we may mention

IRA DAVIS,

who, while he devotes the most of his time to repairs, still finds opportunity for some new work of excellent quality.

MARBLE WORKS

Nearly opposite the office of the Beach Carriage Factory on Washington Street, is situated the Marble Works of

D. C. Batchelder.

Mr. Batchelder has for several years possessed an enviable reputation, not only in Ypsilanti, but in sister cities, on account of the excellent quality and beautiful designs of the work done at his factory. Some of the finest monuments in the cemeteries of Detroit, and many other places, testify both to the superior work done here and to its appreciation by the general public. Besides his work in American and Italian marbles, Mr. Batchelder deals largely in the beautiful granities of New England, and is a special agent for the famous Scotch Granite. The best workmen to be found are always employed. Mr. B. richly deserves the extensive patronage he has acquired. His building is built of brick, and is large and commodius.

TANNIERS

Of these, Ypsilanti has two.

Crane's Tannery

is situated on Congress Street, just west of the bridge. Here 1200 calf skins, 500 kip\* skins, and 1500 hides are tanned per year. Mr. Crane employs from eight to ten men, and has earned for his leather a reputation of which he may feel proud. He finds a market for the most part in Michigan, but fills orders both from the East and West. His building is of brick.

Near the railroad bridge is the Tannery of

J.N. Howland & Co.

This firm is not doing so large an amount of tanning as it has been accustomed, for the reason that is is directing a portion

\*A "kip" is used when referring to assorted small animal skins.

of its time and means to the manufacture of mittens. It turns out about 800 calf skins, 200 kip skins, and about 4000 sheep skins per year. This year it will manufacture 200 dozen mittens. This last industry is but just begun, the Company having manufactured its first 100 dozen last year.

These firms have leather stores connected with their works, and do a good business as merchants in addition to their manufacturing interests.

#### WOOLEN MILL.

On the west bank of the Huron, just below Forest Avenue bridge, stand the buildings of the Ypsilanti Woolen Mill Company. The main building is a mammoth brick structure 33 X 108 feet, and is five stories high, with a wing 40 X 50 feet, three stories high. The wool house is built of brick and is 40 X 50 feet, two stories and basement. The mill and its equipments cost over \$100,000, and is destined to be one of the most valuable adjuncts of the city. No one member of the Company being a practical manufacturer, and all being largely engaged in other pursuits, the mill has been closed until such time as a party can be found who will take a sufficient pecuniary interest in it to secure its economical management and who has such practical knowledge of the business as to be able to take charge of it. There is no doubt but the right party can obtain as good a chance here for making a profitable investment as can be found in the States. The mill, or an interest in it, is being offered at a bargain which cannot help netting first-class percentage.

The mill is a "five set" one, with all the machingery complete, and of the most approved make. It is capable of manufacturing six hundred yards of cloth per day. The machinery is run by water power. We are satisfied that there is not a better opportunity for making a profitable investment to be found west of New England.

#### WHIP-SOCKETS.

Something like five or six years ago, Mr. Curtis, proprietor of Curtis' Carriage Factory, invented a whip-socket, and secured it by letters patent. This patent he sold to the

WORDEN BROS.,

who at once went to manufacturing them, hoping by so doing to "get their money back," and if possible, "turn an honest penny." Three stately brick dwellings, with Mansard roofs, today testify that they must have succeeded in both their desires. In fact, their success has astonished both themselves and their friends. They have their factory on River Street, which consists of a brick building 32 X 44 feet, and a two story wooden building 20 X 50 feet. This factory furnishes employment to ten men, and turns out 616 gross of whip-sockets per year. The machinery is driven by a ten horse power engine. In addition to their whip-socket manufactory, and in connection with it, the Worden Bros. manufacture "Worden's Improved McCoy's Automatic Steam Cylinder Lubricator," which is daily coming into very general use wherever steam engines are employed, and which will give to these gentlemen, who have bought the patent for the United States, another high road to wealth.

Just off Huron Street, in the rear of Joslin & Whitman's Law Office, is a large brick building, a portion of the upper story of which is occupied by the

Ypsilanti Whip-socket Co.

This Company manufactures a whip-socket invented by Mr. Beach, the inventor of "Beach's Shifting Carriage Seat." Seventy gross per month are made and shipped from this factory, which gives employment to four men.

In the same room with this Company, but separated from it by a neat railing, may be seen the machinery of

R.H. Wilson & Co.,

Manufacturers of

TELEGRAPHIC INSTRUMENTS,

Fire and Burglar Alarms, etc. These gentlemen have won for themselves a very desirable reputation for the excellence of their work.

Occupying the whole of the first floor of this building, and a portion of the second, is found the

Gas Governor Manufacturing Co.

which manufactures "Horne's Automatic Gas Governor". This is one of the most valuable inventions of the day, and Mr. Horne,

the inventor, and the gentlemen associated with him in the manufacture of it, cannot fail to reap large fortunes. The Company is making preparations to manufacture on a large scale, and will soon increase the number of its employees to fifty. It now has eight men at work, and a ten horse power engine to work the machinery. Already has it received orders from the East and the West, and though but a few weeks old has begun to receive unsolicited letters of valuable commendations. Ypsilanti is fortunate in securing its establishment at this place.

#### THE GAS COMPANY

has its works located on Forest Avenue east and adjacent to the river. It furnishes the city a good quality of gas, lighting not only our public and private buildings, but the streets.

#### BAKERIES

Of these the city has two, both of which are doing a good business. Mr. H. Haskins, and J.A. Wilson are the proprietors.

There is also an establishment kept by Mr. Geo. Hirths, where the purest of confections are made.

Near Curtis' carriage factory stands a new building built by E.W. Grant, Esq., which is intended for

#### GENERAL WOOD WORK.

This factory has a central part 28 X 80 feet and two wings each 20 X 40 feet. It is supplied with costly and superior machinery, and an engine of 30 horse power. It will be opened for work about the first of June.

#### PUMPS.

Rogers pump factory,--is located on Congress street east, and turns out 200 well-pumps, and 100 cistern-pumps per year.

Corey's factory--On Congress street west turns out about two-thirds of that number. In addition to his pump business Mr. Corey does quite a business in scroll work.

Note--Quite an extensive business has sprung up in our city, in the line of pump manufacturing, among which is the celebrated Elastic Rubber Bucket patented by Wm. Cooper. This pump seems to give universal satisfaction. It was patented in 1872, and wherever it has been tried it has been found to fill the bill completely. The systematic introduction of this useful

invention, in this State, is in the hands of Charles Holmes, Jr., agent for Michigan; and judging from the number seen manufactured, and the loads constantly seen going out into the country, it promises to be a complete success. Over five thousand of these pumps were sold last year. Parsons Brothers manufacture the curbs. The patentee Mr. Cooper, our fellow townsman is also the inventor "of several other articles of great usefulness." We notice that this pump receives the endorsement of our friend J. Webster Childs, who knows when he sees a good thing.

#### BROOMS.

E.R. Forsyth's factory on River street gives employment to four men. It turns out forty dozen brooms and brushes per week, for which a ready market is found.

A. Gilmore & Co.'s factory on Huron street, north, is doing a lucrative and thriving business.

#### TIN WARE.

Independent of the hardware stores three in number, there are three establishments devoted to the manufacture of tin ware, that of

A.S. Yost is located on Cross street west. Mr. Yost employs fourteen men in the manufacture and sale of tin ware, and uses 250 boxes of tin per year.

C.P. Damon employs from six to eight men and uses about 150 boxes of tin per year. His factory is situated on the west side of the river.

Lang & Gregory, a new firm just started with flattering prospects. They are located on Huron street, opposite the post office.

#### CIGARS

Guild & Son on Huron street, employs about fourteen men and boys, and manufactures about 30,000 cigars per month. Their brands of cigars equal the most famous of Detroit manufacture.

Shemeld & Cook employ seven men and boys, and manufacture 16,000 cigars per month. They are located on Cross street near the depot.

#### BREWERS AND MA

The Grove Brewery of Foerester Bros. stands at the foot of Grove street. These gentlemen have large cellars which are

well stocked with beer which is manufactured here from the best of material and after the most approved manner. So long as beer is used by any class of citizens "tis better that it should be well rather than illy made." This brewery with its equipments represents a large sum of money.

The only other brewery in the city is owned and worked by Jacob Grob who does a good local business. His brewery is located on Forest Avenue, west.

Wallington & Swain's malt house is situated on Forest Avenue east, is of brick 50 X 70 feet, and is three stories high. It has a capacity of 25,000 bushels per year but has not yet been worked beyond 15,000. The firm is composed of young men, and they have already acquired a reputation that brings them orders far beyond their ability to fill. A steam engine of eight horse-power runs their malt mill and elevator, and does their pumping. This property has been established and created here within the space of two or three years.

There are two extensive

#### BRICK YARDS.

C. McCormick's at the west limits of the city, and M.P. Holmes & co. a mile south. They both turn out hundreds of thousands of brick annually. The latter also manufacture a splendid article of tile.

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#### SOCIETIES.

##### Free Masons

The Masonic Order is represented by "Phoenix Lodge, No. 13," organized in 1846. The Lodge numbers about one hundred and thirty members. The hall is situated on Congress Street.

Ypsilanti Lodge--No. 128, which was organized in 1855, and which has a present membership of one hundred. This lodge occupies its large hall in Masonic block situated on Cross street east. Both of these Masonic lodges are increasing in numbers, wealth and moral power.

##### The Good Templar

are represented here by the

Ypsilanti Lodge No. 282, organized in 1865, it is one of the most thriving societies of the kind in the State. It numbers one hundred and thirty members and embraces some of the most intelligent citizens in this city. It holds its regular weekly meetings every Monday evening and affords independent of its other work a pleasant resort for the young people, where cheerful intercourse, music, readings, and speeches, take the place of those questionable influences which would surround them were no such place as this provided for their entertainment.

Granges.

One of the most flourishing Granges in the State was organized last Fall, holding its meetings at Batchelder's Hall. It numbers many of our ablest and most intelligent farmers.

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North of the city, on the high bluff of the Huron, and one of the most beautiful sites in the vicinity is the

Cemetery,

which has already been made beautiful by the judicious aid which art has given nature; nearly one-half of it is covered by a forest of second growth oak trees, and the multiflicity of evergreens and hedges, is rapidly converting the remainder into a grove, lovely to the eye and grateful to our sense of what is due to the dead. The many fine monuments already erected show from afar where the loved ones whose memories they commemorate lie buried. Ypsilanti in this, as in all things else to which she has laid her hands, has shown no miserly spirit.



IN REMEMBRANCE  
OF  
MERRY MAUDE WALLACE



Delivered by Miss Ethel O'Connor, May 12, 1981 for the Emeritus Faculty Meeting held at Eastern Michigan University.

When I read of the death of Merry Maude on March 24, 1981, my first thought was a light has gone out in the world. As I attended the memorial service and as I visited with the many people who respected her work and loved and admired her, I realized that "her light" will continue to be reflected in the lives of many people. Thus it seemed fitting to contact and include the reflections of many of her friends.

Miss Gertrude Roser and Mrs. Emma Rogers who worked with her at Eastern Michigan University prepared the following information and tribute.

Merry Maude Wallace  
Born April 28, 1910 - March 24, 1981 in Benton Harbor, Mi.

Came to EMU 1945 - Retired June 30, 1975

Miss Wallace acted as classroom teacher for physically handicapped children from 1945 to 1966 when her responsibilities were changed to college teaching only.

During her term of classroom teaching with the children, Miss Wallace contributed much to the education and personal lives of the children with whom she worked. Through the years many of her ex-students kept in touch with her, announcing weddings, births and activities in their lives, and Miss Wallace was always happy to keep in touch with them. Also, during the time she was teaching children she was engaged in teaching college courses as were all other classroom teachers in the Rackham building at that time.

Her interest in the handicapped was also reflected in her participation in activities of the Easter Seal Society where she was a Board Member for many years.

Merry Maude Wallaces's varied interests gave the children in her class a desire to learn and to have interests beyond the 4 walls of their classroom.

Her philosophy as concerned each child was to set his or her physical and mental goals high and to aim for achievement in both.

She never gave up on any physical handicap that a child had no matter how severe that handicap. Her optimistic attitude carried over to each child's outlook on life.

Merry Maude was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, American Association of University Women, P.E.O., Ladies Literary Club and the Ypsilanti Historical Society. From people in these organizations came the reply she was willing to accept leadership responsibilities. As a leader she was a caring, objective, helpful and creative person who lead for the good of all with no concern for the personal gratification of her own ideas. She was an avid reader and a most intelligent woman who kept up to date on current issues and shared stimulating ideas and information. Many noted that to them she was an ageless vital person whose outlook on life inspired them.

Merry Maude's family sent these thoughts through her sisters, Katie Bloom and Edie Vandenbosch:

She was a cohesive factor in our family. She kept us very close. Marry Maude loved to travel from the time she was two and took her first steps down a country lane accompanied by the family dog.

Keeping up family traditions was important to Merry Maude.

She awakened in each of our children a curiouosity about the world and life itself. Their lives have been enriched by the books and trips she gave them.

The things she taught us -- love and concern for each other and the world are now being evidenced in our grandchildren.

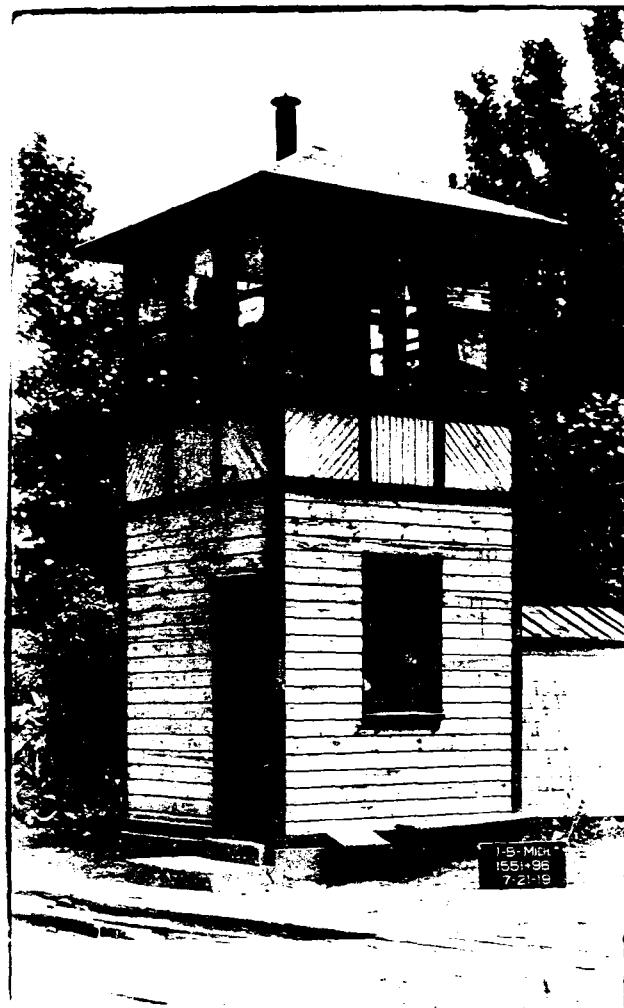
She will live on in each of their lives.

From the Reverend Donald B. Strode came the following tribute:

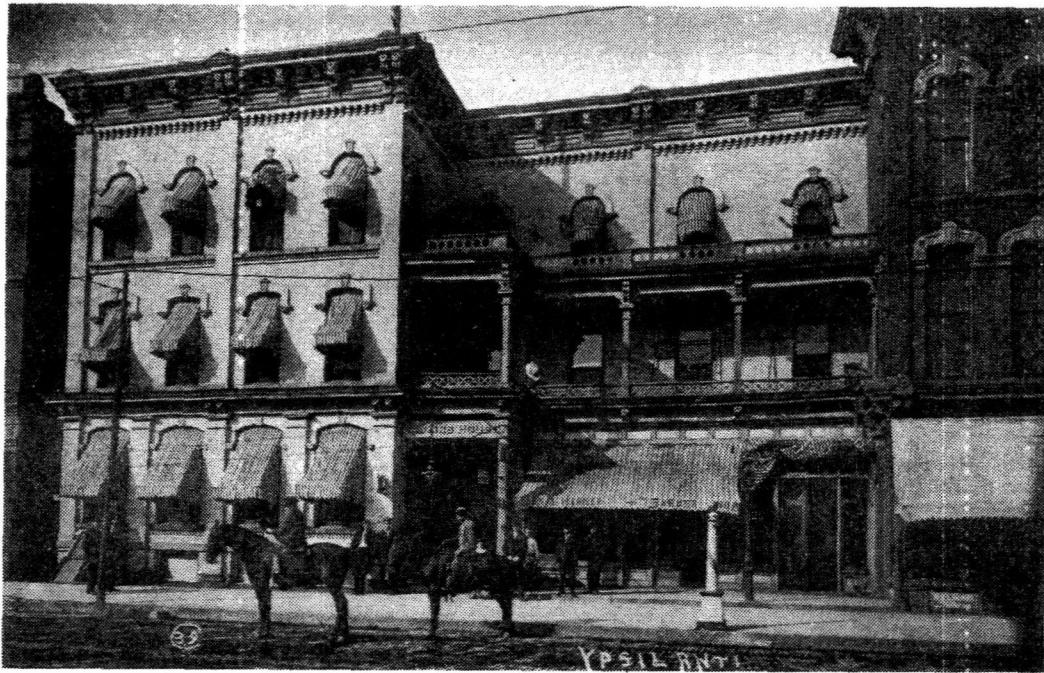
At her memorial service, I quoted a couple of lines of a poem written by Bishop Ralph Spaulding Cushman of the United Methodist Church:

There are two kinds of people,  
You know them,  
As you journey along life's track;  
those who take all your strength from you,  
and others who put it all back!

Merry Maude was the kind of person who brought strength to those with whom she came in contact. It was a privilege for me to be her pastor, and close friend, having toured both England and Europe with her on two different occasions. She will be sorely missed, and we thank God for the impact of her life on so many people.



Cross Street Gate  
House on Michigan  
Central -- 1919



HAWKINS HOUSE 1905 \*

from Michigan Pioneer Collection 1879-1880 Vol. 3, p. 637

"Deaths of pioneer settlers of Washtenaw 1877-1880:

Abiel Hawkins died in Ypsilanti, February 8, 1878, aged eighty-one years. He came to Detroit in the summer of 1818, remained there a few months and returned to western New York, and remained there until 1834, when he again returned to Michigan, and settled in Ypsilanti in 1835, and for the most part of the time until his death was the proprietor of the Ypsilanti house, afterwards called the Hawkins House."

Stage Coach line (Detroit to Tecumseh via Ypsilanti) employed Abiel Hawkins as manager. He was also Post Master under Polk but resigned because it conflicted with his duties as a mail delivery contractor. He was a member of the Episcopal Church.

<u>Abiel Hawkins</u>	b. Dec. 10, 1797, Williamston, Mass.
	d. Feb. 8, 1878, Ypsilanti, MI
	m. 1822 to Sophronia, daughter of Stephen and Lydia Kellogg Winslow
Children:	Frederick W. b. 1834
	Walter H. b. 1825, Batavia, N.Y. (May 3rd)
	Harriet b. Feb. 3, 1837

\*216 West Michigan Avenue.





## CALENDAR

August 28th  
29th  
30th

YPSILANTI YESTERYEAR BEGINS TODAY  
Ypsilanti Historical Society 2nd  
Annual Antique Show and Sale at  
the old Ypsilanti High School Gym  
(210 West Cross St.) August 29th  
and 30th.  
Museum expanded Hours all three  
Days!!! Where will you help?  
Call Ethel O'Connor 482-7952  
Or...Laverne Howard 482-7081



May and June are traditionally BUSY times for the Museum as tours are scheduled for many students in the area and warm weather brings the first vacationeers into the area. If you notice the reoccurrence of names in the activity summary that follows, it is because some of our Guides and particularly our Guide Chairman, Ethel O'Connor, have done yeoman's work. They are gracious and knowlegable and to be congratulated for outstanding service to the community.

It is always a delight to see the list of visitors who came to the Museum from Ann Arbor, Haslett, Belleville, Chelsea, Millford, Saline, Willis, Livonia, Dexter, Madison Heights, Dearborn Heights, and Taylor, Michigan. They also came from Redwood City and Hollywood, California, Houston, Texas, Eugene, Oregon, Chicago, Illinois, Tempe, Arizona, Alexandria and Richmond Virginia, Aberdeen, North Carolina, Tipp City, Ohio and merry old England. Again it is due to the many hours you, our guides, spend welcoming our guests and detailing our heritage that makes the Museum so much a source of pride for each of us.

Ann McCarthy, Rene Burgess, Phoebe Miller and Sharon Patterson

had the delightful experience of appearing before our City Council at the yearly budget hearings. The support and interest shown by these representatives of our city was important for all of us to hear. One of the gentlemen said "You make a tremendous impact in this community." I do not recall one negative comment and they gave us so much of their valuable time on a long and tiring day. We are grateful for the support of the City and the courtesy shown us.

April 28th

Twenty-five students from George School accompanied by Suetta Thornbury and Ellie Kowalski. Guides for the morning were Marge Gauntlett and Rene Moran.

May 2nd

A beautiful Saturday morning brought the Eastern Michigan class of teachers from the Ypsilanti Public Schools History Project. Martha Irwin is coordinating the course with Jerry Fouchey, of the History Project. The Archives, contents and procedures were detailed by Foster Fletcher, City Historian and Sharon Patterson. The Guides on this special teaching experience were Ann McCarthy, Doris Milliman, Marge Gauntlett, Eileen Harrison, Rene Moran and Jerry Fouchey.

A special exhibit was in place for the teachers detailing early home and school life. This exhibit features artifacts from our Museum Collection and was put together by Judy Litschel and Jerry Fouchey with the assistance of Ann McCarthy.

This exhibit will be used again during the YESTERYEAR FESTIVAL in August so if you missed it make a point of coming in on its next appearance.

Dottie Disbrow accompanied the teachers on the afternoon Bus Tour of historic structures in Ypsilanti. The teachers gave their day rave reviews!

May 5th

Mrs. Bonita Stowe, teacher and Stella Metas, student teacher accompanied a combined class from Adams and George Schools. These 21 well-mannered and well-informed children were given their tour by Marge Gauntlett and Rene Moran.

May 13th

Brownie Troop 184 and their leaders, Judy

White and Maggie Sell were accompanied on their afternoon tour by Jerry Fouchey. Its a nice-sized troop of 13 girls and they delighted in the childrens' room. This room has become a favorite with young and old alike with its bisque dolls, Noah's Ark, wicker carriage and olden story books.



May 18th



May 31st



June 2nd



June 5th

Each year on Mayor's Exchange Day the Museum is privileged to welcome the special visitors to our city and takes the opportunity to acquaint them with some of the people and events of our early days. Bob Sloane and Nathalie Edmunds, Mayor Pro Tem, accompanied Hon. and Mrs. Douglas Voss and Mr. and Mrs. Walte Giszezak of Madison Heights. Ann McCarthy, Foster Fletcher and Sharon Patterson had the pleasure of hosting and answering the many questions of "How do we begin?" and "What can we do to ensure the preservation of our history?" Many of you remember how it begins--determination, hard work, vision and lots of love of your community.

The Artrain came to town and Jack Harris took advantage of the day to bring a group of Ann Arborites on a walking tour of historic Ypsilanti. Ethel O'Connor, Linda Hahlbrock, Jerry and Lynn Fouchey, and Dottie Disbrow guided on this busy Sunday as over thirty people saw the Museum. "I want to see more! I love it!" one enthusiastic guest jotted in the book.

Joan Carpenter, 4th Grade teacher from Woodruff School and a new member of the Society (yeah, Joan!) brought 28 students to tour the house. Sue Binder, Sharon Patterson and Marge Gauntlett (who?) found these children well prepared for what they would see and full of questions for us. It was with great pride the class presented Marge with a "Woodruff School" plate and it now is part of the collection of the Society and currently on display in the Ypsilanti Room. Thank you, Joan and Children!

Twenty-two students from Erickson School and their teacher, Stefanie Byrd, and twenty-three 4th graders in Eloise Ackles

class walked to the Museum (as do most of the students who come to see us) on Friday morning and their guides were Dottie Disbrow, Marge Gauntlet, Rene Moran, Rene Burgess and Eileen Harrison.

The afternoon saw the third grade classes of Marie Swenson and Mrs. Johnson from Erickson making the walk to the Museum. The classes totaled 52 students and the afternoon guides were Jerry Fouchey, Mary Pappas, Ethel O'Connor, Hazel Stitt, and Sue Matthews.

Ninety-two students may be a record for students-on-a-single-day-in-June-in-Ypsilanti!



AGRICOLAE CLUB, Ypsilanti, Michigan - 1918. The 1st Future Farmers Chapter in the United States, formed by B.A. Walpole, Instructor. Mr. Walpole joined the faculty of Michigan State University in 1922.  
Do you see any familiar faces? Many are identified on Page 29.



On Sunday afternoon, May 17th, Nathalie Edmunds spoke to the Ypsilanti Historical Society on the 1980 Ypsilanti Yesteryear Heritage Festival. Nathalie is Chairman of this 1981 Festival and presented slides spiced with interesting history on this welcome addition to the culture of our City. The growth and enthusiasm of this three day event is reflected in broad community involvement and a Festival that attracts visitors to our city from many areas. Tom Dodd added a brief presentation on Artrain happenings. The meeting was held in the Ladies Literary Club and refreshments provided by Kathryn Howard, Ann McCarthy, Renee Moran, Lanee Burgess, Linda Hohlbrook and Elinora Miller. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon and left with some of the excitement of our speaker.

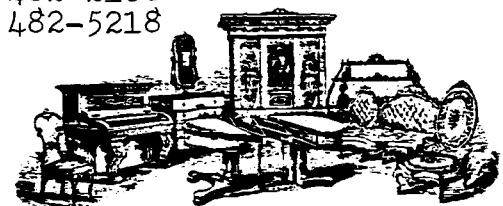
YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
2ND ANNUAL ANTIQUE SHOW AND SALE  
AUGUST 29th and 30th

In conjunction with the YPSILANTI YESTERYEAR HERITAGE FESTIVAL our Annual Fund Raising Project will be held at the old Ypsilanti High School Gym (Community Education Building) at 210 West Cross Street in Ypsilanti.

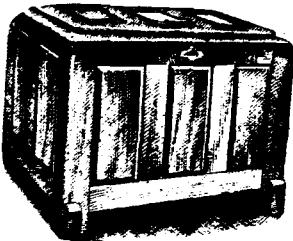
In your annual Spring Cleaning, please keep in mind we will be very happy to sell your antique items at our booth for a 25% Commission...OR accept your gift to the Society and profit 100% from your generosity and support!

GIFTS ACCEPTED ANYTIME!!! ARTICLES FOR CONSIGNMENT SALE ACCEPTED  
FROM 6 AM ON THE DAY OF SALE

For more information or early donation pickup please feel free  
to call        Kathryn and LaVerne Howard        482-7081  
                  Herb and Grace Cornish        482-2108  
                  Dr. Bill Edmunds        482-5218



We will again this year be asking for your help at the MUSEUM and at the ANTIQUE SHOW AND SALE as the time approaches. It's an exciting time for Ypsilanti....plan to be part of it!



## ACQUISITIONS

Nan Gutterman  
Ann Arbor, MI

"Follett House--Depot Town,  
Ypsilanti, MI" a research  
paper.

Tom Durant  
Ypsilanti, MI

Metal strong box, 11" X 14"  
containing early records of  
the National Bank of Ypsilanti,  
dating from 1870.

Mrs. Stout  
St. Clair, MI

Button 2½", "I'm an YPSI ROOTER"  
Gala Day, November 10, 1928.

Mrs. C. Kirk Knight  
Dearborn, MI

Items relating to broadcasting  
career of C. Kirk Knight:

Michigan State Normal College,  
High School Dept. Diploma, 1925.

MSNC, Training Dept. Diploma, 1921.

Award--Adcraft Club of Detroit, 1973.

Award--Michigan Cooperative Extension,  
dated 1972. Second Award  
commemorating ten years of Service  
via "Country Living".

Plastic microphone WWJ Radio

Gavel inscribed Detroit City Hall  
1868-1961.

Wooden Box, signature of Kirk Knight  
on lid.

Rote Holmes  
Apple Valley, CA

Early school bell, 11" high 6"  
bell span, solid brass with wooden  
handle. Note accompanies gifts  
stating "Rote thinks it is a  
relic from mother's family--Solon  
Woodell, Canton Twp., Wayne Co. MI.  
But I (Ada Holmes) think it is a  
relic from Father's family...Aaron  
Eurotus Holmes, Cherry Hill, Wayne  
Co., MI.

Thomas Durant  
Ypsilanti, MI

Early records of the Ladies Library  
dating from before 1881 (notation  
on page 241 of record book).

Terry Towler  
Ypsilanti, MI

Bottle, Ypsilanti Bottling Works.

ACQUISITIONS con't.

Doris Milliman  
Ypsilanti, MI

Wynsten Stevens  
Ann Arbor, MI

Margaret Ehman  
Ann Arbor, MI



Mrs. Maynard Richardson  
Ypsilanti, MI

autographed copy of The Story of Willow Run by Marion F. Wilson.

Ypsilanti photos gleaned from  
the Ann Arbor News, 15 8 X 10  
Glossies.

Wedding invitation of Miss Kate  
C. Hopkins to Mr. Milo F. Ehman,  
dated November 22, 1887, Ypsilanti,  
MI. Hand-written by Paul Ehman's  
grandfather.

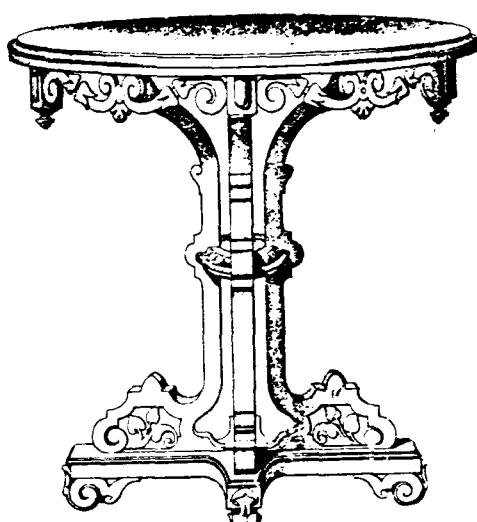
Lacy hand-knit mitts, elbow length,  
black. Knit by Mrs. George Ehman, Sr.  
Paul Ehman's grandmother for her  
sister, Mrs. Christine Cain, mother  
of Fred Cain.

Photo of Huron Paper and Papeteria  
and Cornwell Coal located at 101-105  
Huron St. Dated approx. 1912.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Ypsilanti Historical Society gratefully acknowledges a cash  
contribution from Rote Holmes in honor of his mother, Nora Holmes  
and his sister, Ada Holmes. Nora's full name was Martha Elnora  
Holmes, wife of Aaron E. Holmes.

\* \* \* \* \*



NEW MEMBERS

Mr. & Mrs. Anthony J. Bastarache  
201 North Huron St.  
Ypsilanti, MI

Kenneth Burdette  
105 Johnson St.  
Ypsilanti, MI

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Campbell  
224 Elmwood  
Dearborn, MI

Joan J. Carpenter  
2646 Hawks Rd.  
Ann Arbor, MI

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Crysler  
1319 Pingree  
Lincoln Park, MI

Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Griffin  
1200 Harris St.  
Ypsilanti, MI

Mr. & Mrs. Robert H. Cotshall  
1116 Harding  
Plymouth, MI

R.O. Pritchard  
1222 Sherman St.  
Ypsilanti, MI

Glen Sakriska  
108 Maple St.  
Ypsilanti, MI



Agricola Club, Ypsilanti, MI as pictured on page 25....

Instructor B.A. Walpole appears in back row the second from the right. Students identified are Cora Arttry, Clyde Lynn, E. Freeman, M. Crittenden, Stanley Woods, F. Furlong, M. Wiards, Emily Freeman, George Elliot, Emory Carpenter, Ivan Galpin, D. Crittenden, G. Gill, C. Canfield, B. Crippin, C. Button, I. Watling, R. Perry and B. Hammond.

Photo taken in 1918.

## YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND ARCHIVES

President .....	Mrs. William (Ann) McCarthy
Vice-President .....	La Verne Howard
Secretary .....	Mrs. George (Sharon) Patterson
Treasurer .....	Fred Peters

### Board Members

Ann McCarthy, La Verne Howard, Fred Peters, Rene Burgess, Doris Milliman, Phoebe Miller, Margaret Bemis, Linda Hahlbrock, Foster Fletcher, William Edmunds, M.D., and Sharon Patterson.

### Administration Committee

Doris Milliman, Chairman, Rene Moran, Ann McCarthy, Eileen Harrison, Flora Block, Deci Howard, Marge Gauntlett, Ethel O'Connor and Sharon Patterson.

Miss Ethel O'Connor, Chairman of Museum Guides  
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Howard, Plant Room  
Ruth Reynolds, Clothing Curator

### Lewis House Board

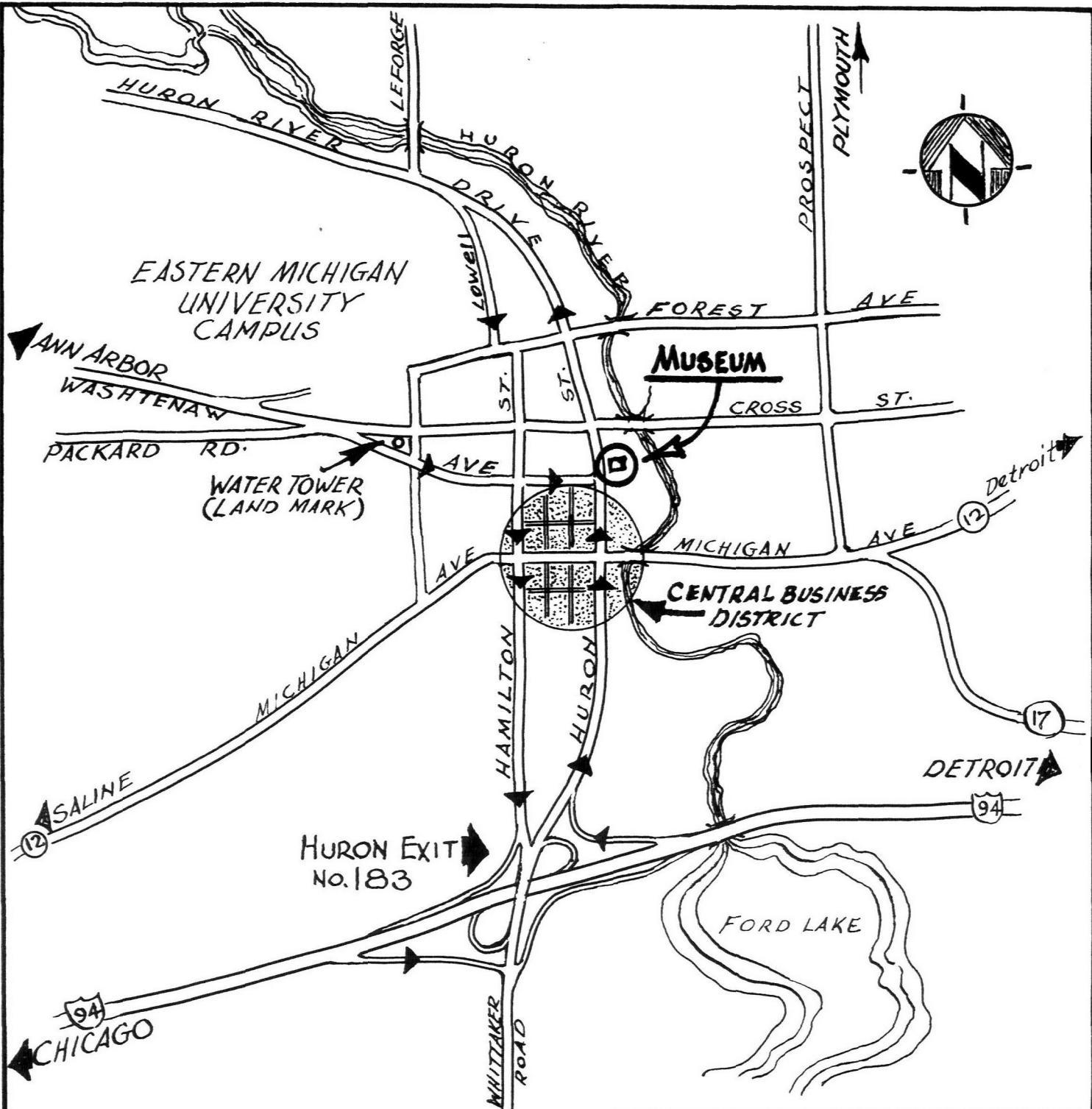
Arthur Howard, Chairman and Treasurer, Evangeline Lewis, La Verne Howard, William Edmunds, M.D., Secretary and Horatio Lewis

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

State legislation was passed in 1957 authorizing local governing bodies (Ypsilanti City Council) to "raise and appropriate money" and help with "any activity or project which...tends to advance historical interests" of the community. Public Act 213, 1957 applies to cities and villages.

February 2, 1960, Mayor Rodney E. Hutchinson appointed the following to serve as a Historical Committee: Mrs. H. Z. Wilber, Mrs. George Ennen, C.D. Bassett, T.S. Webber, Westly M. Dawson, Harry F. Shafer, Miss Clara Sweet, Mrs. Elson (Ruth) Shaw, F.B. McKay, Mrs. M.I. Stadtmaier, E.R. Isbell, Albert W. Brown and the Mayor as Chairman with Louis S. White serving as City Historian.

October 10, 1960, the organizational meeting of the Ypsilanti Historical Society was held in the Estabrook School.



## Ypsilanti Historical Museum

220 N. Huron St.

Ypsilanti Michigan 48197 Phone 313-482-4990

Foster Fletcher - Historian  
Sharon Patterson - Archivist

Museum Hours  
Fri. Sat & Sun. 2-4 P.M.  
Archives - By Appointment